

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01139 211120Z

43

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 FEAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 INT-05 SS-15 H-02 /102 W

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R 210908Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8481

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TORONTO

US MISSION IAEA VIENNA 55

AEC GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS SEOUL 1139

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PARM, MNUC, TECH, KS

SUBJ: ROK DOMESTIC URANIUM SUPPLIES

1. KOREAN PRESS ON FEBRUARY 21 CARRIED ARTICLE ANNOUNCING SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF AN EXTRACTION TEST FOR URANIUM. NATIONAL GEOLOGICAL AND MINING INSTITUTE OF KOREA (NGMIK) REPORTED IT CAN PROCESS ONE TON OF URANIUM ORE DAILY AND EXTRACT SIX KILOGRAMS OF URANIUM PER TON. REPORT ENVISAGED PROCESSING ONE HUNDRED TONS OF ORE DAILY, EXTRACTING URANIUM AT COST OF DOLS TWENTY-SIX PER POUND. QUALITY OF URANIUM WOULD BE POINT ZERO THREE TO POINT ZERO FOUR PERCENT. REPORT CLAIMS KOREAN ORE DEPOSITS AS SIX MILLION TONS KNOWN AND TWO MILLION TONS YET TO BE IDENTIFIED.

2. COMMERCIAL SECTION WAS AWARE OF INTENSE ROK GOVERNMENT INTEREST IN DEVELOPING NATURAL URANIUM FUELS FOR SOME TIME. AN NGMIK RESEARCH TEAM IN SEPTEMBER 1974 EXPERIENCED FIRST SUCCESS IN THIS FIELD BY EXTRACTING 30 GRAMS OF URANIUM VIA CONTINUOUS SULPHATE PROCESS. PRESS STATEMENT AT THAT TIME STATED INSTITUTE WAS DETERMINED PRODUCE REACTOR FUEL GRADE MATERIAL FOR USE IN CANDU HEAVY WATER UNIT DUE TO BECOME UNCLASSIFIED

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CRITICAL IN 1981. THE KUKTONG GRAPHITE MINING CO. HAS CONTACTED

EMBASSY OFFERING TO EXPORT 500 MT/MONTH OF POINT ZERO SEVEN
PERCENT URANIUM ORE.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 21 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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05 JUL 2006

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